1760. Charges preferred against him by the French General Montcalm caused him to be imprisoned after his return to France, but a trial before the Chatelet de Paris resulted in his being absolved from all blame in his administration of the affairs of Canada.

Vauxhall Gardens.—In 1823 and for a number of years afterward, a noted public resort in St. Louis, famous for its demonstrations on the Fourth of July and similar occasions, was known as Vauxhall Gardens, it being named after the popular and fashionable London resort formerly situated on the Thames above Lambeth. The first of the St. Louis resorts called by this name surrounded one of the oldest brick residences in the city—situated on the west side of Fourth Street and between Plum and Poplar Streets—which had been built and previously occupied by Thomas C. Ridblick. Some years later, a second resort, also called Vauxhall Gardens, was established at the old Soulard residence, on Carondelet Avenue, south of Miller street.

Veiled Prophet.—Early in the spring of 1878, a goodly number of choice and congenial spirits, met and agreed that an association fashioned on the order of the Southern Mystic Societies would flourish in this latitude, and since the fall of that year, the Veiled Prophet has made his annual appearance in his beloved City of St. Louis. The history of this transplanted southern flower of Fancy, and its steady growth, shedding perfume in response to the willing hands that have nurtured it, is reflected in these pages, reviving and recalling the pageants of the past, with which much of the progress of this city and its forward movement is interwoven. For twenty years the Veiled Prophet and his faithful followers have appeared on the streets of St. Louis in a pageant of magnificence and splendor, "casting sunshine on the faces" of the multitude. For twenty years the annual ball of the Veiled Prophet has been given, eighteen times at the Merchants' Exchange, and twice at the large hall of the St. Louis Exposition. On these two occasions, tableaux of merit and bewildering effect were shown. Only once in its history has an entertainment been given on a day other that that on which the parade took place and then a concert and tableaux were given at the Olympic Theater on the evening after the pageant and ball. The belles and beaux of the earlier days of the Veiled Prophet's balls will remember them with pleasure and recall their enjoyment. The belles and beaux of today, look forward with pleasant anticipation to the coming of the Veiled Prophet Ball.

The people whom the Veiled Prophet and his retinue particularly wish to please are loyal and true and appreciate this contribution to their pleasure. For them the pageants are given and no expense is spared in their preparation. The object of the promoters is only to please, without hope of reward or pay, except to feel that men are made happier by this expenditure of time and money. From year to year, the Veiled Prophet has given the Nocturnal Illuminated Pageant on the first Tuesday of the first week in October of each year, since 1878. Ask the people if they want it? Consult every movement for the city's advancement and see if the inspiration did not originate and the prosecution of the work to a successful termination did not depend upon the Veiled Prophet and his faithful followers, unknown among their fellow mortals and colaborers.

This retrospect would be incomplete without a word for the members of the Veiled Prophet organization. Not all the good fellows belong to it—but none but good fellows do. Expecting no reward, no word of praise, not permitted to make any acknowledgement or give any sign of recognition to those who are willing to bestow it, they falter not in their duty and are willing to persevere. Its charm, and its success are in its secrecy.

The invitations to the ball, and the programmes, always tasteful and appropriate are very much sought after each year. Specimens of them are deposited in the Missouri Historical Society for preservation, to be a reminder and a remembrance after years have lapsed. A resume of the pageants was formed into an anthology and distributed as a souvenir in 1891, to the guests of the Ball. In 1894 a float previously represented in each parade was made to serve the subject of that year, being the "History of Mystic Societies in the United States," particularly in Mobile, Ala., that being the oldest city in which these carnivals have been given, and the City of New Orleans, La., also famous in the annals of Mystic Society celebrations. Particular mention is made of these two pageants, for the purpose of mak-

ing easier the study of the panorama of the Veiled Prophet's history in St. Louis.

Following is a skeleton sketch of each pageant, giving the subject of the parade—the representation of each float, and the number of floats represented in the parade. In the year 1878 "The Festival of Ceres" was given, showing seventeen floats.

1. Glacial Period of Winter; 2. Chariot of the Sun; 3. Primitive Animals; 4. Fiends of Darkness; 5. The Centaur; 6. Flora; 7. Proserpine and Pluto; 8. Golden Globe; 9. Demeter; 10. Triptolemus; 11. Plowing; 12. Fruits; 13. Bacchus; 14. Industry; 15. Wealth; 16. The Veiled Prophet; 17. Silenus.

1879—Progress of Civilization, 22 Floats.—1. Volcano; 2. Cave of Cyclops; 3. Pottery; 4. Wood Carving; 5. Sculpture; 6. Music; 7. Weaving; 8. Painting; 9. Architecture; 10. The Wheel; 11. Ship Building; 12. Engines of War; 13. Glass; 14. Implements of Artificial Light; 15. Instruments of Measuring Time; 16. Printing; 17. Astronomy; 18. Steam; 19. Electricity; 20. Cauldron of the V. P.; 21. Their Dinner Set; 22. The Veiled Prophet.

1880—The Four Seasons, 22 Floats.—1. The Veiled Prophet; 2. The Nomadic Era; 3. Spring Land; 4. Spring Life; 5. The May Queen; 6. Flora; 7. Egyptian Summer; 8. Alhambra; 9. Summer Lands; 10. Rustic Sunshine; 11. Autumn Land; 12. Greek Autumn; 13. Demeter; 14. Age of Chivalry; 15. Autumn Princes; 16. The Farmer's Joy; 17. Winter's Nights or the Fates; 18. Grotto; 19. War in Winter; 20. Peace in Winter; 21. The Arctic; 22. The Frost King.

1881—"A Day Dream of Woodland Life 21 Floats.—1. The Veiled Prophet; 2. The aboriginal Indian; 3. The Flower; 4. The Ant; 5. The Farm; 6. The Garden; 7. The Hunt; 8. The Dinner; 9. The Bee; 10. The Spider; 11. The Locust; 12. The Supper; 13. Recreation; 14. The Shower; 15. Courtship; 16. Marriage; 17. The Revel; 18. The Concert; 19. The Ball; 20. Rest; 21. The Dream Ends in Fairy Land.

1882—The Veiled Prophet's Travel Around the World, 23 Floats.—1. The Veiled Prophet; 2. The V. P.'s Land Conveyance; 3. The V. P.'s Water Conveyance; 4. China; 5. India; 6. Persia; 7. Egypt; 8. Greece; 9. Europe; 10. Italy; 11. France; 12. Russia; 13. Germany; 14. England; 15. Scotland; 16. Ireland; 17. America; 18. The Ballot Box; 19. The Indian; 20. The Plantation; 21. Jolly Flatboatmen; 22. Uncle Sam.

1883—Fairy Land, 23 Floats.—Household of the Veiled Prophet, The Veiled Prophet and High Priests, Fairyland, Fairies of Perfume, Fairies of the Wind, Fairies of Light, Fairies of Eungi, Gnome Fairies, Fairies of Malaria, Fairies of Winter, Fairies of the Month, Fairies of the Fountain of Many Colors, Fairies of Mid-summer Night, Fairies of Good Luck, The Sleeping Beauty, Bonny Kilmeny, The Swan Maiden, Lorelei, The Magic Mirror, The Magic Cage, Fairies of the Household, Jack the Giant Killer, Mother Goose.

1884—The Return of Shakespeare, 22 Floats.—The Return of Shakespeare, The Team of Hecate, The Wooing of Troilus, The Forest of Arden, Orlando's Magnanimity, Benedict Entrapped, Jessica's Elopement, Shylock Foiled, Hamlet in the Churchyard, Macbeth in the Witches Cavern, Falstaff and the Recruits, Bosworth Field, Angincourt, Coriolanus Honored, Anthony and Cleopatra, The Incantation, The Finding of Hermione, The Portents before the death of Ceasar, Petrucio Carries off Kate, Host of the Garter as Peacemaker, Malvolio's Folly, The Veiled Prophet.

1885—Arabian Nights, 22 Floats.—King of the Jinn bearing the V. P., The Fairy of Poetry and Romance, The Modern Story-Teller of the Orient, The Genii and the Lady, The Three Ladies of Bagdad, The Story of the Barber, The Fisherman and the Jinnee, Noureddin and the Fair Princess, The Court of the Khaleefeh, Alladin and his Wonderful Lamp, Alladin and his Slaves with Jewels, Beder and Giauhare, The Halt in the Desert, Sinbad, the Sailor and the Dwarfs, Sinbad in the Tomb, The Great One-Eyed Giant, The Roc's Egg, The Flying Horse, History of Prince Zeynalasnan, Prince Ahmen and the Fairy Banou, Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves, The Fair Scheherazade.

1886—Scenes from American History, 21 Floats.—America, Discovery of Northmen, Landing of Columbus, Columbus [illegible] Ferdinand and Isabella, Ponce De Leon and the Fountain of Youth, Meeting [illegible] and Montezuma, King Nezahualcoyotl a[illegible] coco, De Soto Discovering the Mississippi, Pocahontas and John Smith, Henry Hudson, Burning of the Dutch Village, Landing of the

Pilgrims, Washington Crossing the Delaware, The Heroes of '76, Daniel Boone, Hunting the Buffalo, Statute of General Jackson, Westward Ho, King Cotton, Missouri, Veiled Prophet.

1887—History of the Bible, 22 Floats.—Veiled Prophet and High Priests, Michael and Lucifer, The Expulsion, Cain and Abel, Abraham Offering Isaac, Joseph Sold into Egypt, Joseph Giving Corn to his Brethren, Moses in the Bullrushes, Moses on Mount Sinai, The Golden Calf, Sampson's Betrayal, David and Goliah, [illegible] of the Godly, Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, Ascent of Elijah, Jonah [illegible] into the Sea, Jonah Calling Ninevah to Repentance, Death of Josiah, Capture of Tyre, Judith and Holofernes, Belshazzar's Feast, Daniel in the Lion's Den.

1888—Children's Lore, 22 Floats.—Mother Goose, Ding Dong Bell, Old King Cole, Cinderella at the Palace, Little Red Riding Hood, Who Killed Cock Robin, Cherry and Fair Star, Bluebeard—The Feast, Blue-beard—The Rescue, Robinson Crusoe and Friday, Alladin in the Cave, Humpty-Dumpty's Misfortune, Day in Fairyland, Alice's Dream—A Long Tale, Alice's Dream—Pig and Pepper, Alice's Dream—Queen's Croquet Grounds, Killing the Jobberwock, Alice and the Cheesmen, Baron Munchausen and Friends, Uncle Remus' Tar Baby Story- Santa Claus on the Roof Tops, The Veiled Prophet.

1889—Comic Opera, 22 Floats. — The [illegible] Grand Duchess, The Mascot, [illegible]lla, Chimes of Normandy, Pina[illegible], [illegible] Olivette, Orpheus and Eu[illegible], [illegible], Mikado, Little [illegible] Corsair, Erminie, Nadji, Monte Christo.

1890—[illegible] Floats.—[illegible] Knights and Dames, [illegible], Music Hath Charms, A Rural Col[illegible] Water-color, [illegible] and Zoo, [illegible].

1891—Ten Most Popular Authors, 22 Floats.—The Veiled Prophet, Ten Most Popular Authors, 2000 Leagues under the Sea, The Submarine Forest, Grace and the Indians, The Night Attack, The Old Southern Home, Uncle Tom's Cabin, The Carnival, Market Day at Perugia, The Mill on the Floss, Dumas Sinbad, Mr. Pegotty's Home, The Shipmeek in Copperfield, Uriah Heep's Office, Kenilworth, The Tournament, Meeting of Cortez and Montezuma, Death of Montezuma, Ben Hur's Chariot Race, The Head of the Ethiopian, An Elephant Hunt.

The Ten Authors Selected.—Jules Verne, Capt. Chas. King, Mrs. H. B. Stowe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Geo. Elliott, Alex Dumas, Chas. Dickens, Sir Walter Scott, Lew Wallace, Rider Haggard.

1892—History of Louisiana Territory, 22 Floats.—America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Mexico, South America, Oceanica, Missouri, Veiled Prophet, Father of Waters, Death of De Soto, Arrival of Pontiac, Reception of Marquette and Joliet, La Salle taking possession of Louisiana Territory, Founding of the City of St. Louis, Lieut. Govs. of Upper Louisiana, Purchase of the Territory of Louisiana, Incorporation of St. Louis, Govs. of Louisiana, First Missouri State Officials, Visit of Lafayette to St. Louis, Native Missourian Inaugurated President of the United States.

1893—Storied Hollidays, 22 Floats.—Veiled Prophet, The Lord of Misrule Storied Holiday, New Years Day, 4th Night or Kings Day, Mardi Gras, Pancack Tuesday, Candlemas or Ground Hog Day, St. Valentine's Day, Washington's Birthday, April Fools Day, May Day, World's Fair Day, Whitsuntide, St John's Day, Fourth of July, Exposition Day, St. Louis Fair Day, Columbus Day, Halloween, Harvest Home Festival, Thanksgiving Day, Chrismas Day.

1894—Mystic Societies, 22 Floats.—The Confedition De Rakin, Strikers Club, Comus, Rex, Proteus, Felix Imperator, The Veiled Prophet, Music, Aurora, Marriage of the Rose and the Butterfly, The Prophet's Land Con[illegible], Fairyland, Shakespeare, Arabian Nights, America, Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, Mother Goose, Comic Opera, Zoology, Ten Most Popular Authors, Missouri, Storied Holidays.

1895—Flight of Time, 22 Floats.—Veiled Prophet, Flight of Time, Sunday, Monday,

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December, Zodiac.

1896—Art, Sculpture and Painting.—The Veiled Prophet, Origin of Art, Ancient Art. Warfare of Nimrod, Bacchanal Procession, Roman Wedding Ceremony, Art of the Middle Ages, Apollo and Aurora, Eulenspigel, Apotheosis of Louis XIV, Modern Art, Sappho, Fete in Venice, The Card Players, After the example of the Gods, The Angelus, Evening, The Revellers, The Garden of Love, Police versus Gladiator, Circe, The Fairies Chariot.

1897—Old Time Songs, 22 Floats.—The Veiled Prophet, Old Time Songs, "Comin' Thro' the Rye," "Old King Cole," "The Little Fisher Maiden," "Kathleen Mavourneen," "The Old Oaken Bucket," "A Life on the Ocean Wave," "Listen to the Mocking Bird," "The Water Mill," "Way Down in Dixie," "Shells of the Ocean," "The Last Rose of Summer," "I Dreamt I Dwelt in Marble Halls," "Columbia, The Gem of the Ocean," "The Indian's Death Song," "Die Wacht am Rhein," "The Campbells are Comin'," "The Marseillaise," "Beautiful Snow," "Home, Sweet Home," 'Star Spangled Banner."

"Our revels now are ended, These our actors
As I foretold you were all spirits, and
Are melted into air, into thin air:
And like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capped towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
Yea all which it inherit shall dissolve—
An like this insubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack behind. We are such stuff
As dreams are made on; and our little life
Is rounded with a sleep."

Who composed and who are now members of the Veiled Prophet organization is what the reader would like to know? What the subject of the next parade will be—Well! wait for next October, for the pageant and ball. Who were and who are the members—Well! many have gone, more are here, good men, good citizens.

A notable feature of the Veiled Prophet's Ball has been the Veiled Prophet Quadrille, which is the first dance on the programme immediately after the parade by the Krewe on the ball-room floor. The first dance is by the Krewe and the lady guests only, gentlemen guests not being permitted to participate in the dance. The Veiled Prophet, his two High Priests and the Almoner always form the Imperial Quartette, and they select their partners from among the lady guests. From 1878 to the year 1884 record was kept of the lady who was selected to dance with the Prophet, and who was thus made Queen of the Ball. In 1884 the function began to grow in importance and every one was curious to know upon whom the distinction had been conferred. In that year Miss Virginia Joy was selected; In 1886 Miss Lulu Scott. In 1887 the Ball was graced by the presence of the President and Mrs. Cleveland and on that account the crowd was so great that it was impossible to dance the Veiled Prophet's Quardrille, and it was omitted and no Queen selected. In 1888 Miss Louise Gaiennie was made Queen of the Ball; in 1889 the record is a blank. In 1890, the first year of the Veiled Prophet's departure from giving the Ball at the Merchants' Exchange, and the first year of the tableaux, the ball was given at the Music Hall, Exposition Building, and Miss Kate Hill was selected. In 1891 the Music Hall was again selected and tableaux again given; Miss Julia Thomson was selected as Queen. In 1892 the Veiled Prophet returned to the Merchants' Exchange and the tableaux were omitted and Miss Ellen Sturgis was made Queen. In 1893, the year of the World's Fair, Commissioners visited St. Louis, and were invited to the Ball; Miss Florence was the Queen. In 1894 more extensive preparations were made, crowns were prepared for the Queen and garlands for the [illegible] and [illegible] Lady Patroness and [illegible] were selected, thus making it a great event, forming the Court of Honor, and investing the forming of the Imperial Quardrille with more ceremony; that year [illegible] d, and Miss Bessie Kingsland was [illegible] Mary Louise McCreery was crow[illegible] chosen.

[illegible] at the ball, a slight token similar to the Re-

[illegible] mittee Badge. In 1895 a beautiful token was given to the Queen and the Maids of Honor, entirely different and more costly than the Reception Committee Badge. A token was also given to the Queen and Maids of Honor in 1896 and in 1897.

FRANK GAIENNIE.

Verdin, James,—manufacturer, was born in the family homestead at the corner of Olive and Fifth Streets, in St. Louis, October 2, 1816. His parents were Nicholas and Lettia Verdin and his father, who was a carpenter and builder by trade, came to this country from France. He was educated in the Catholic parochial schools of this City and learned the wagon makers trade with Henry Harrington, an old time wagon maker, whose shops were on Fourth Street opposite the Court House. In 1837, he went to New Orleans and remained there two years, thereafter, working at the carpenters trade. He then returned to St. Louis and in 1840 engaged in the manufacture of wagons, establishing shops on Third Street, between Walnut and Elm Streets. In 1850, he removed to the corner of Eleventh and Market Streets where he engaged extensively in the manufacture of wagons for the Government and for the frontier trade. When the Civil war began he suspended his manufacturing operations temporarily but resumed in 1863 and continued in business until 1865, when he disposed of his wagon manufactory and established the first hardwood lumber yard in St. Louis. In 1878, he associated with him, his son, B. M. Verdin, and later John N. Verdin also became interested in the enterprise, which was incorporated as the James Verdin Hardwood Lumber Co. Of this corporation James Verdin became President. He retired from active business in 1880 and died in St. Louis, September 4, 1888. He was one of the liberal contributors to the building of the Missouri Pacific Railroad and was an enterprising and useful citizen. Liberal minded and thoroughly public spirited, he was esteemed and respected by all who knew him. He was at one time Captain of the famous old military Company, known as the St. Louis Greys and also served as Captain of the old Washington Volunteer Fire Company. He was an ardent Catholic churchman and did much to advance its interest, being a prominent and useful member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and other Catholic organizations. February 2, 1845, he married Miss Margaret Flood, daughter of Michael J. Flood, who was one of the pioneer merchants of St. Louis. The surviving members of his family are Mrs. Verdin, and their children, Louis Verdin, of Leadville, Colorado; John N. Verdin, of St. Louis; Josephine, wife of William H. Swift and Harriet Verdin.

Veteran Volunteer Fireman's Historical Society.—A society which was organized in the rooms of the Missouri Historical Society, November 17, 1888, the founders being John E. Liggett, Isaac S. Smythe, Joseph E. Edgar, Capt. Joseph Boyce, Capt. Henry Guibor, John Maguire, Peter Wonderly, Joseph Sycamore and Thomas Lynch. The membership is composed of persons who belonged to the old Volunteer Fire Department of St. Louis. The objects are social, rather than beneficiary; the members meet to talk over old times, and to gather and preserve relics and material of the old system. Unfortunately, nearly all the records have been either lost or destroyed, only about one-third remaining, and these, together with the old hand engines, trumpets, firemen's suits, banners, portraits, pictures of fire scenes and other relics of the Volnuteer Department are carefully arranged and preserved in the rooms of the Historical Society. The organization has had as many as eighty-four members, but the number is steadily diminishing, as there are no recruits. Judge Hugo S. Jacoby, of Kirkwood was the first President; L. L. Kitchen, Vice-President; and Thomas Lynch Secretary and Treasurer.

"Vide Poche."—A name given to Carondelet by the early inhabitants of St. Louis, in a spirit of good natured railery, its significance being due to the fact that the inhabitants of Carondelet were agriculturalists, rather than traders, and seldom had any money. The term "Vide Poche"—Empty Pocket—was therefore deemed appropriate to their condition and the village was called by that name.

Vigo, Francis.—A St. Louis merchant of Italian origin, who rendered important services to General George Rogers Clark in connection with his operations in the Illinois country. Thoroughly committed to the Amer-